

MARVEL



PLUS : CAP + CYCLOPS

014

Q: A new issue of A+X? The light of my life has returned to me...still continuity free?
A: Continuity free is the only way to be! And you better put on some SHADES because this is our BRIGHTEST collection of TEAM-UP TALES featuring one member of the X-MEN and one member of the AVENGERS yet!

Q: Shades on. Sell me on the first story.
A: This issue we bring you a meeting of two former VILLAINS turned HEROES! The master of magnetism MAGNETO and the master of swapping bodies with your arch-nemesis THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN (a.k.a. the mind of DOCTOR OCTOPUS, in Spider-Man's body)! Plus, the script is brought to you by the Amazing/Superior/Spectacular/Adjectiveless lead singer of SAY ANYTHING, Max Bemis!

Q: Villains turned heroes? Max Bemis? Both those things are rad. Does the second half live up to that standard?
A: YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT! The other story is the second chapter in a PULSE-POUNDING team-up between CAPTAIN AMERICA and CYCLOPS! They're tasked with finding a small platoon of SKRULLS and getting them off Earth in order to avoid an INTERGALACTIC CONFLICT. Pretty great, huh?

Q: Second chapter? Hold the phone. That means there's a first chapter and that means there's continuity...right?
A: JUST GO WITH IT!



THE SUPERIOR
SPIDER-MAN

+

MAGNETO

MAX BEMIS
WRITER

DAVID LAFUENTE
ARTIST

EDGAR DELGADO
COLORIST

VC'S CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER

CAPTAIN AMERICA

+

CYCLOPS

GERRY DUGGAN
WRITER

DAVID YARDIN
ARTIST

ANDRES MOSSA
COLORIST

VC'S CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER

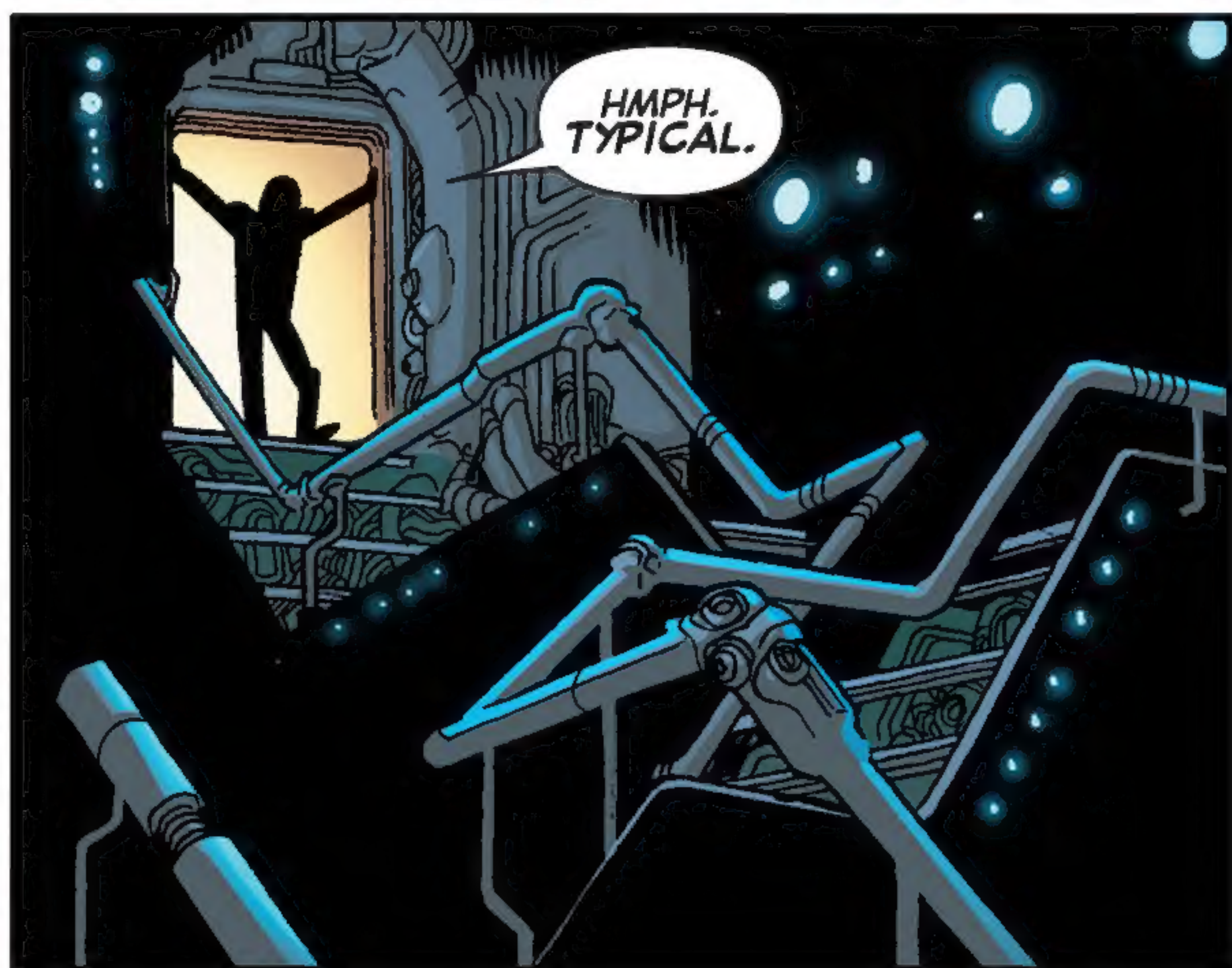
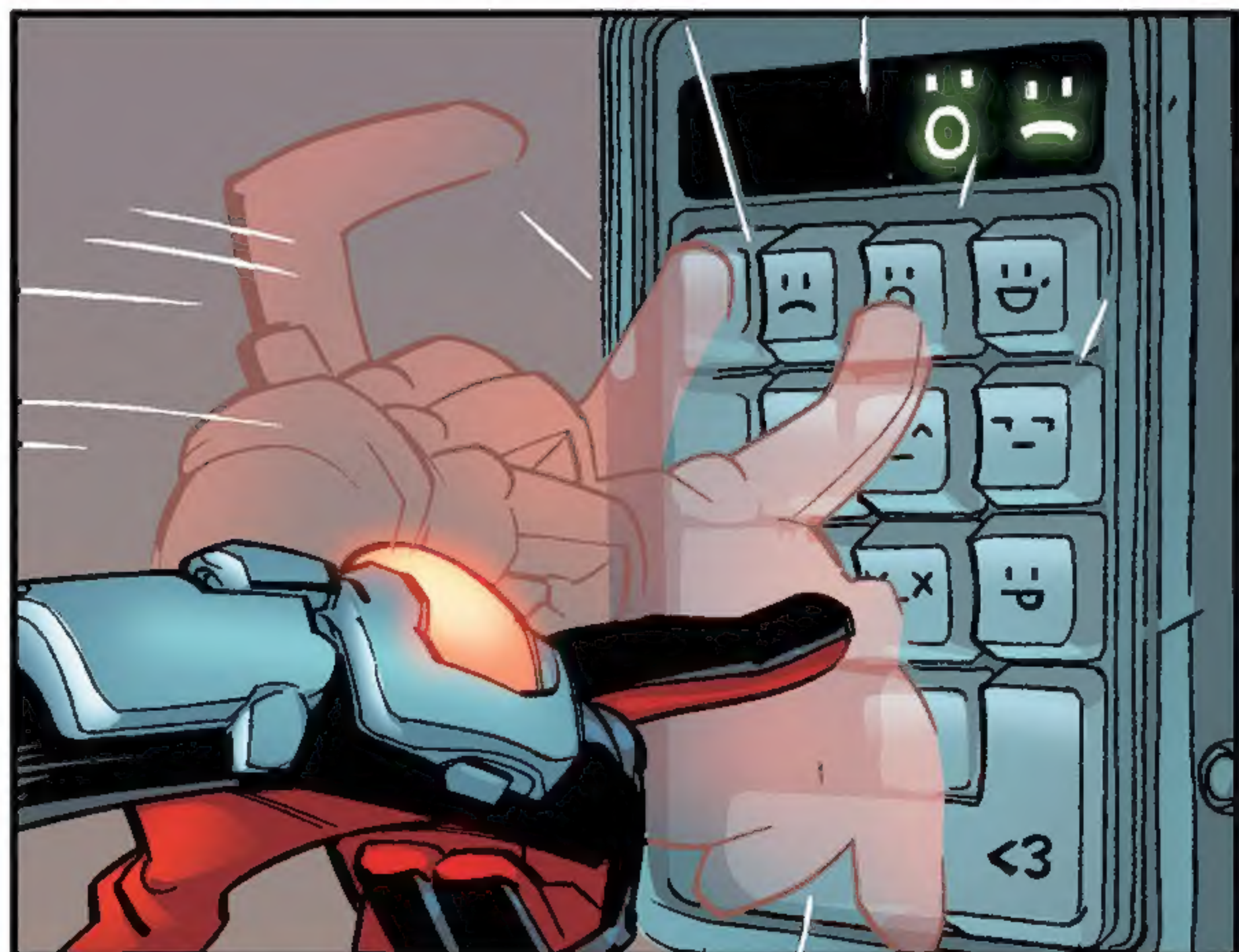
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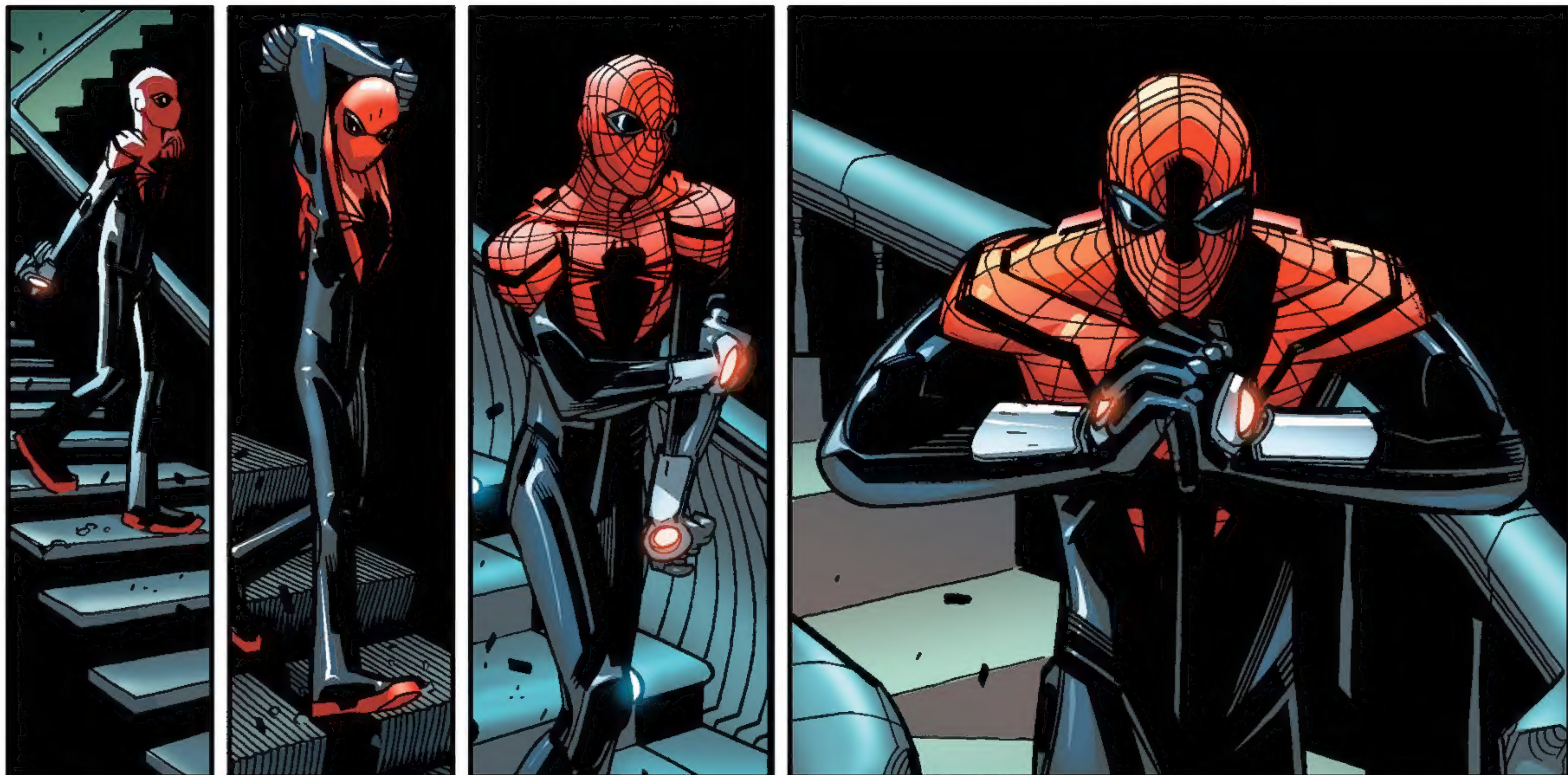
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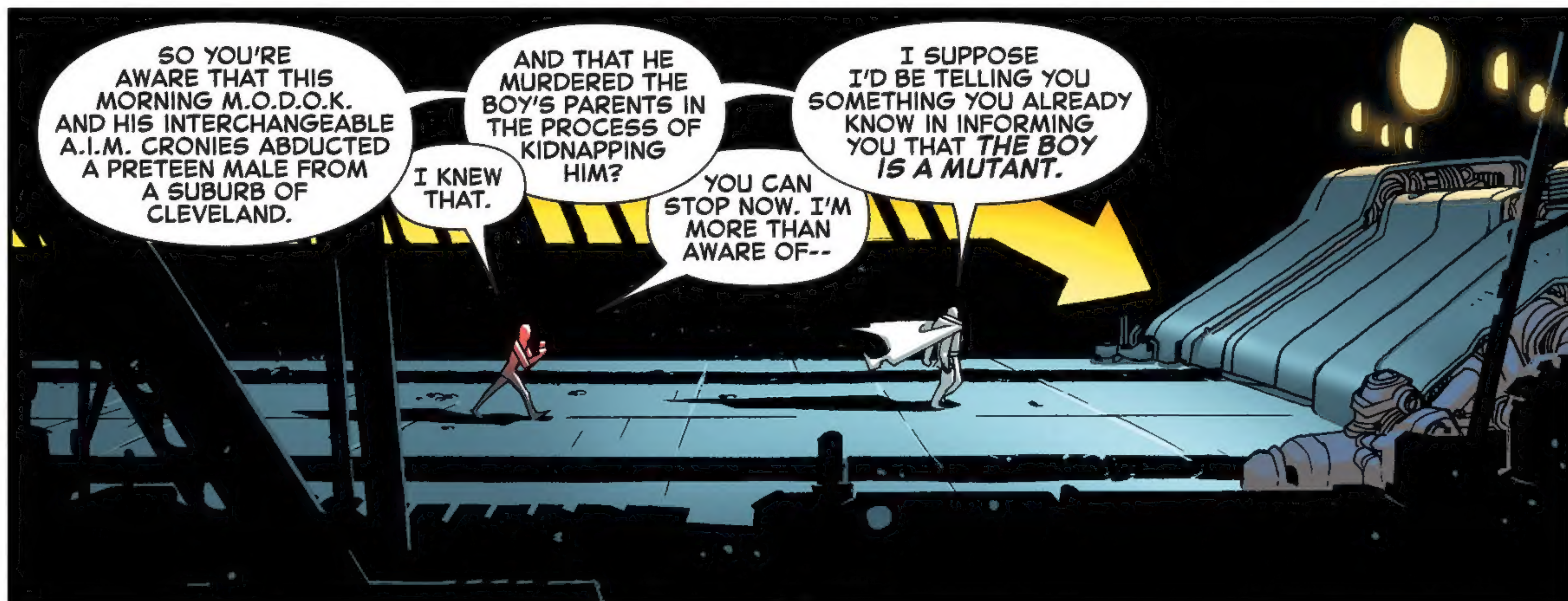
ALAN FINE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER





MAGNETO AND THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN IN...





MAGNETO



SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN



LEVEL ONE

ACID-SPRAYING
CHAMBER

BADDIES

7 X STANDARD A.I.M.
DRONES.
2 X BIG SCARY DUDES
WITH CHAINSAWS FOR
ARMS.

LEVEL TWO

RETRACTABLE
METAL-SPIKE
DEATHTRAP

BADDIES

12 X STANDARD DRONES,
4 X EVIL "LITTLE PEOPLE"
WITH SHARK TEETH.
ALSO THEY FLY AROUND
WITH LITTLE JETPACKS.

LEVEL THREE

THE ROOM OF STENCH
(FOUL SMELLS EMITTED
THROUGH TECH IN THE
WALLS)

BADDIES

12 X MORE STUPID
DRONE-GUYS
1 X GIGANTIC MUTATED
RHINO WITH A HUMAN
BRAIN.

LEVEL FOUR

STICKY ROOM. THE
WALLS AND FLOORS ARE
REALLY STICKY BUT THE
BAD GUYS HAVE
SMART-SHOES.

BADDIES

THE MOST DRONES EVER
5 X CYBERNETIC SPHERES
COVERED WITH KNIVES,
PROGRAMMED ONLY
WITH AN ABNORMAL
SEX DRIVE.

FINAL LEVEL

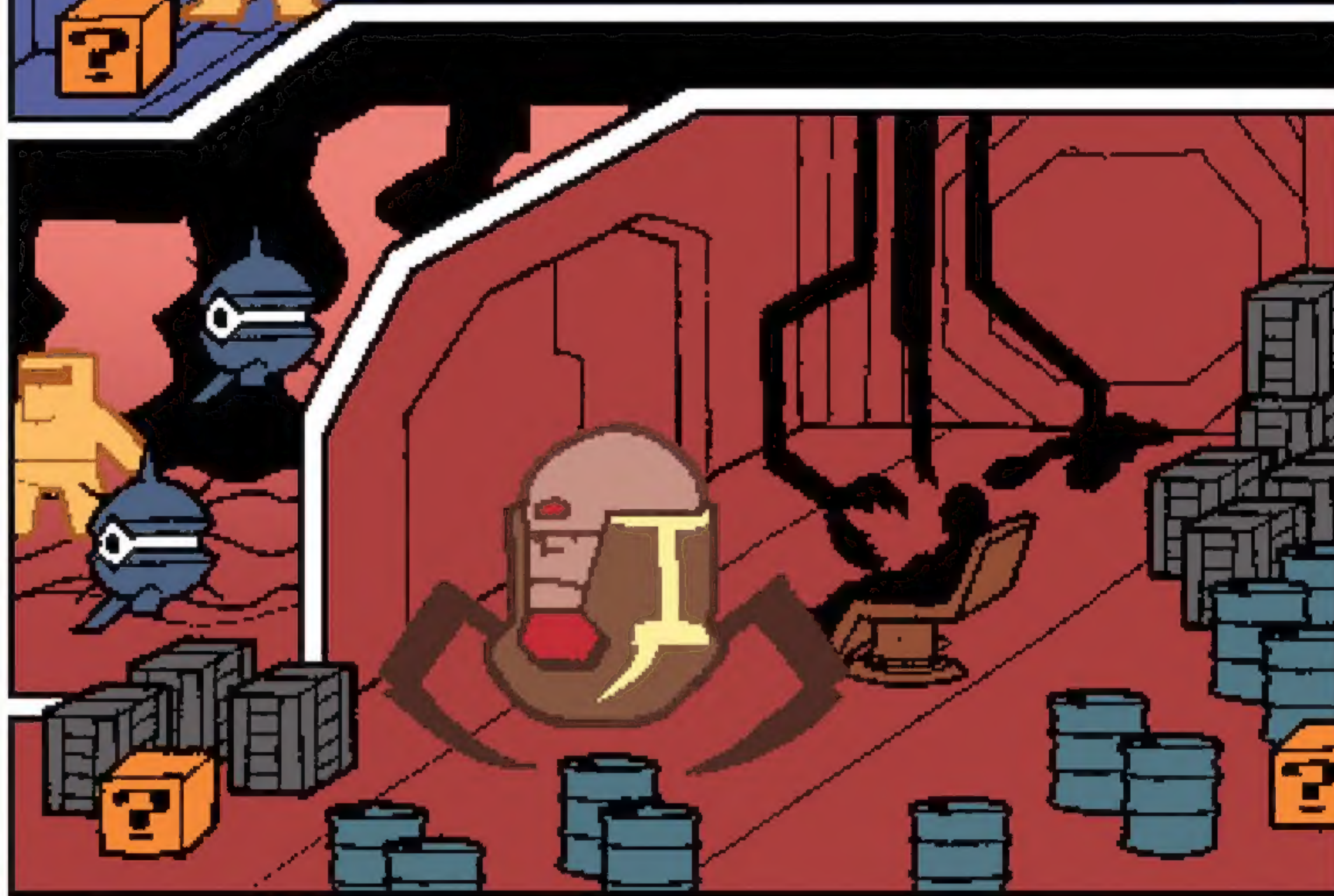
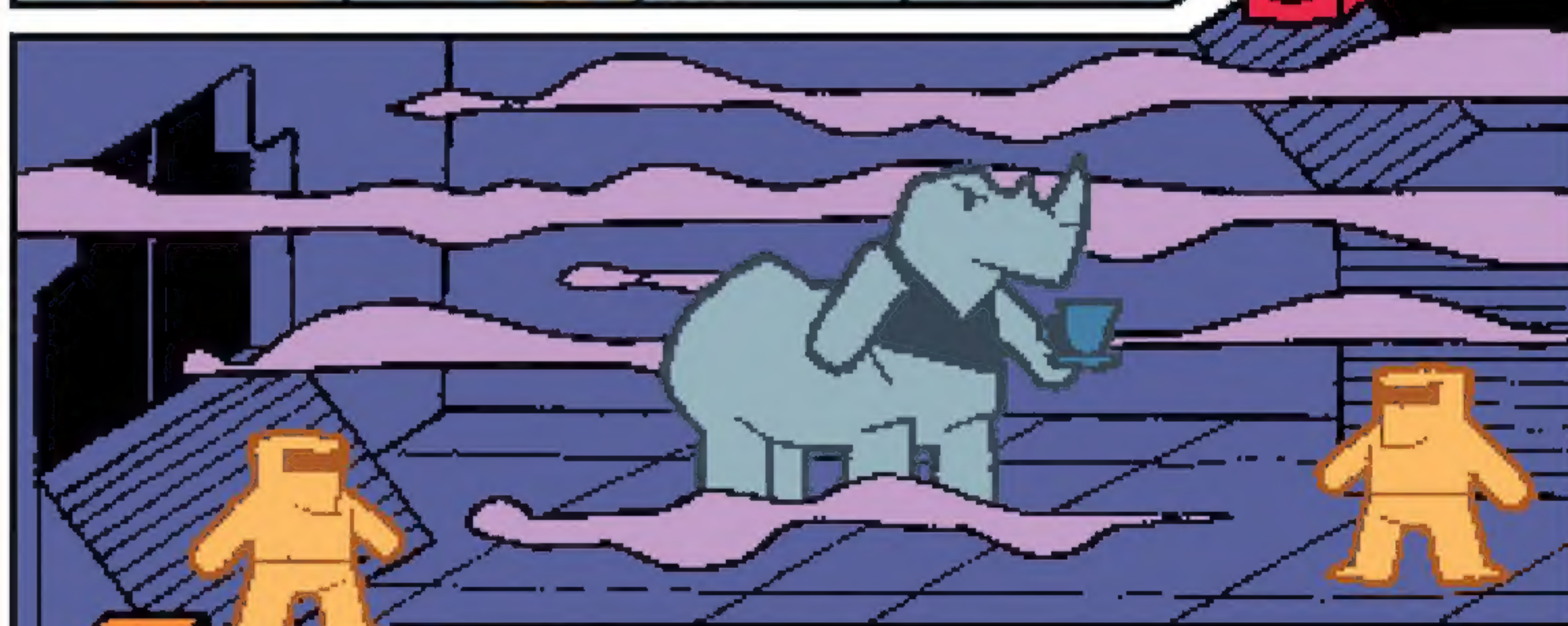
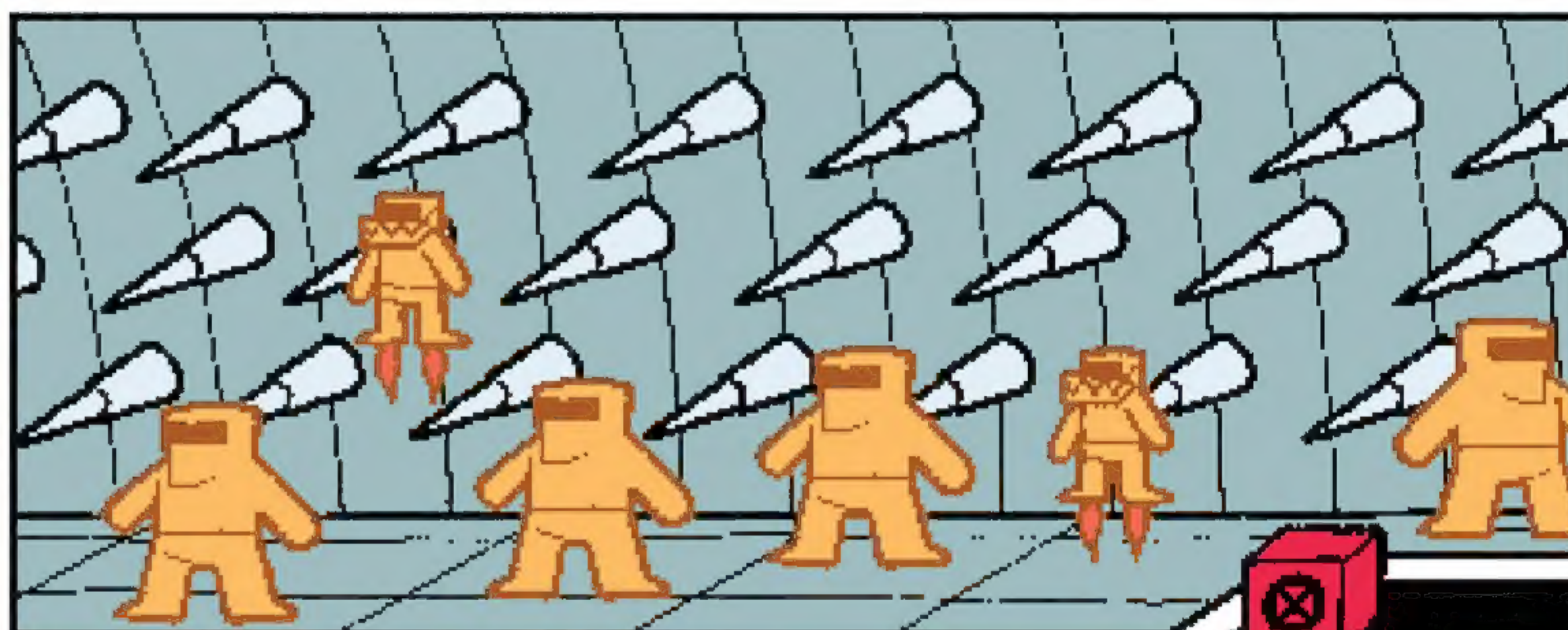
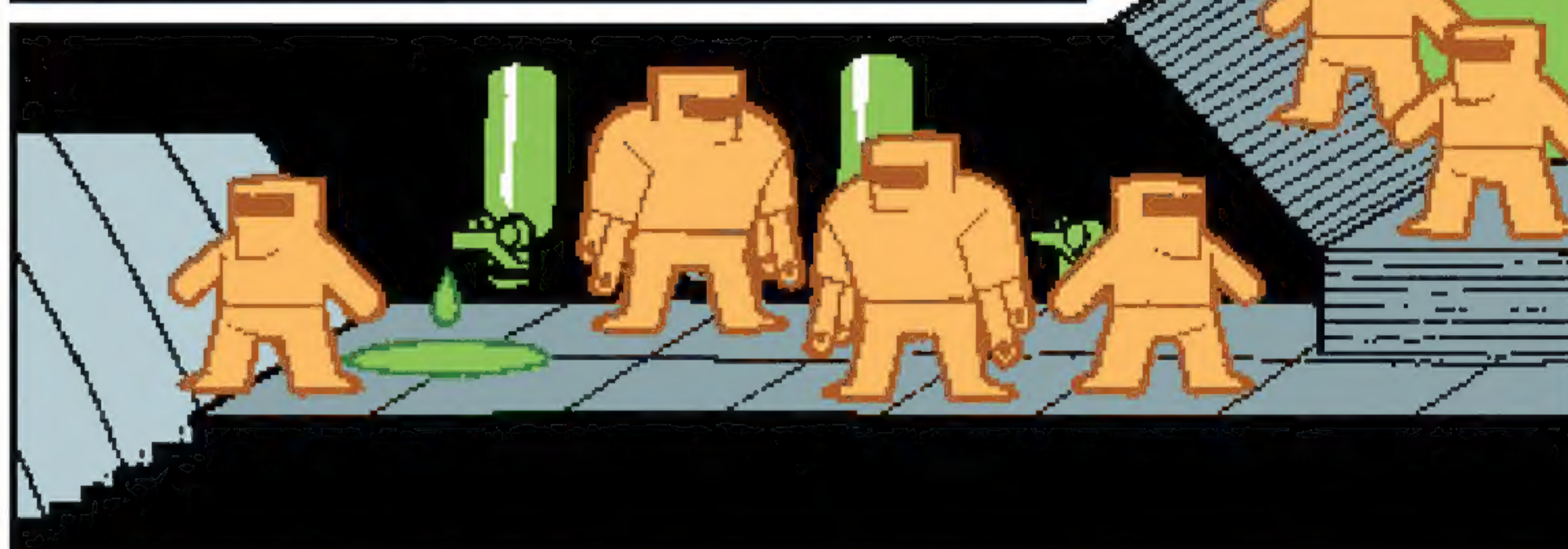
M.O.D.O.K.'S SICK
SCIENTIFIC TORTURE
CHAMBER

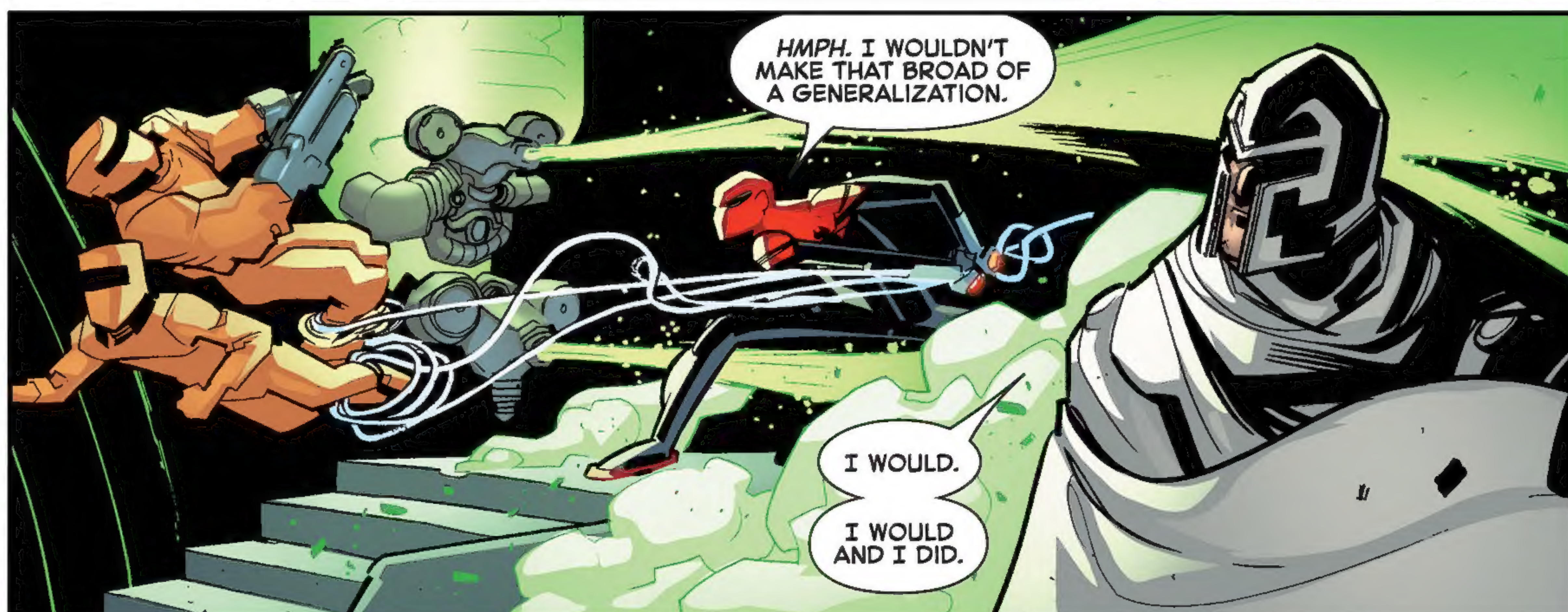
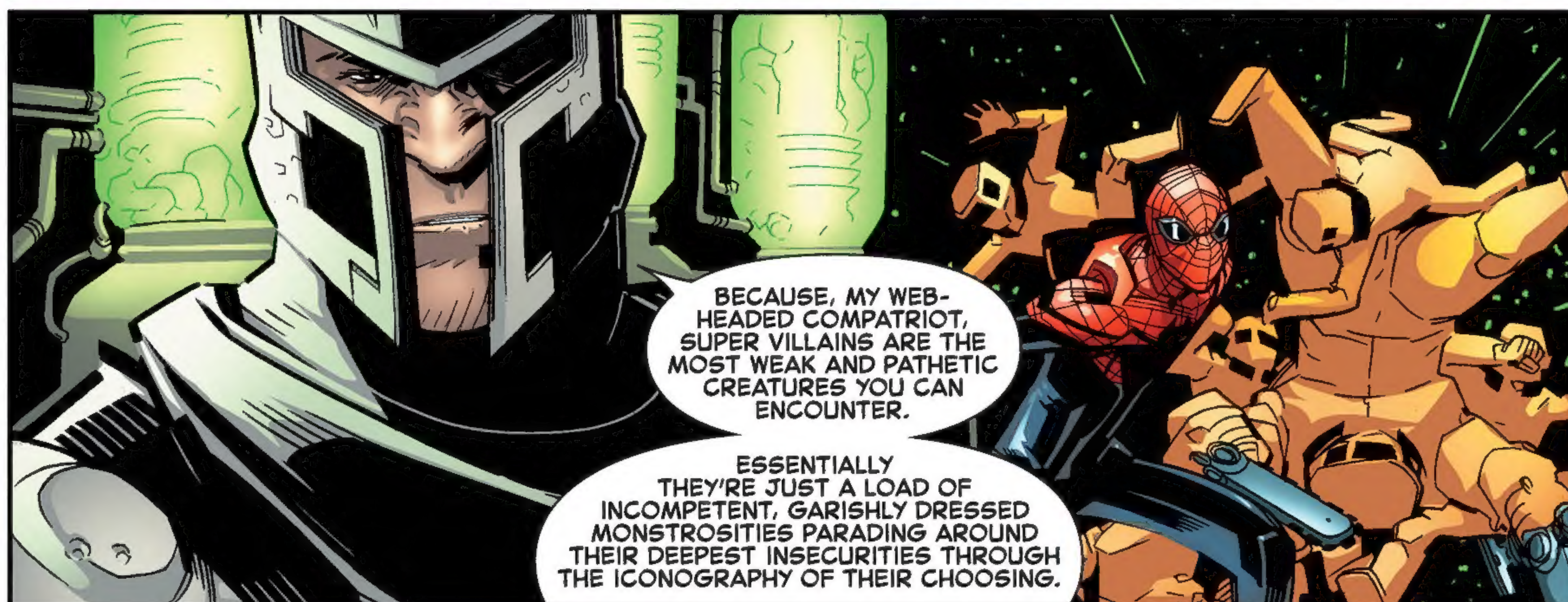
BADDIES

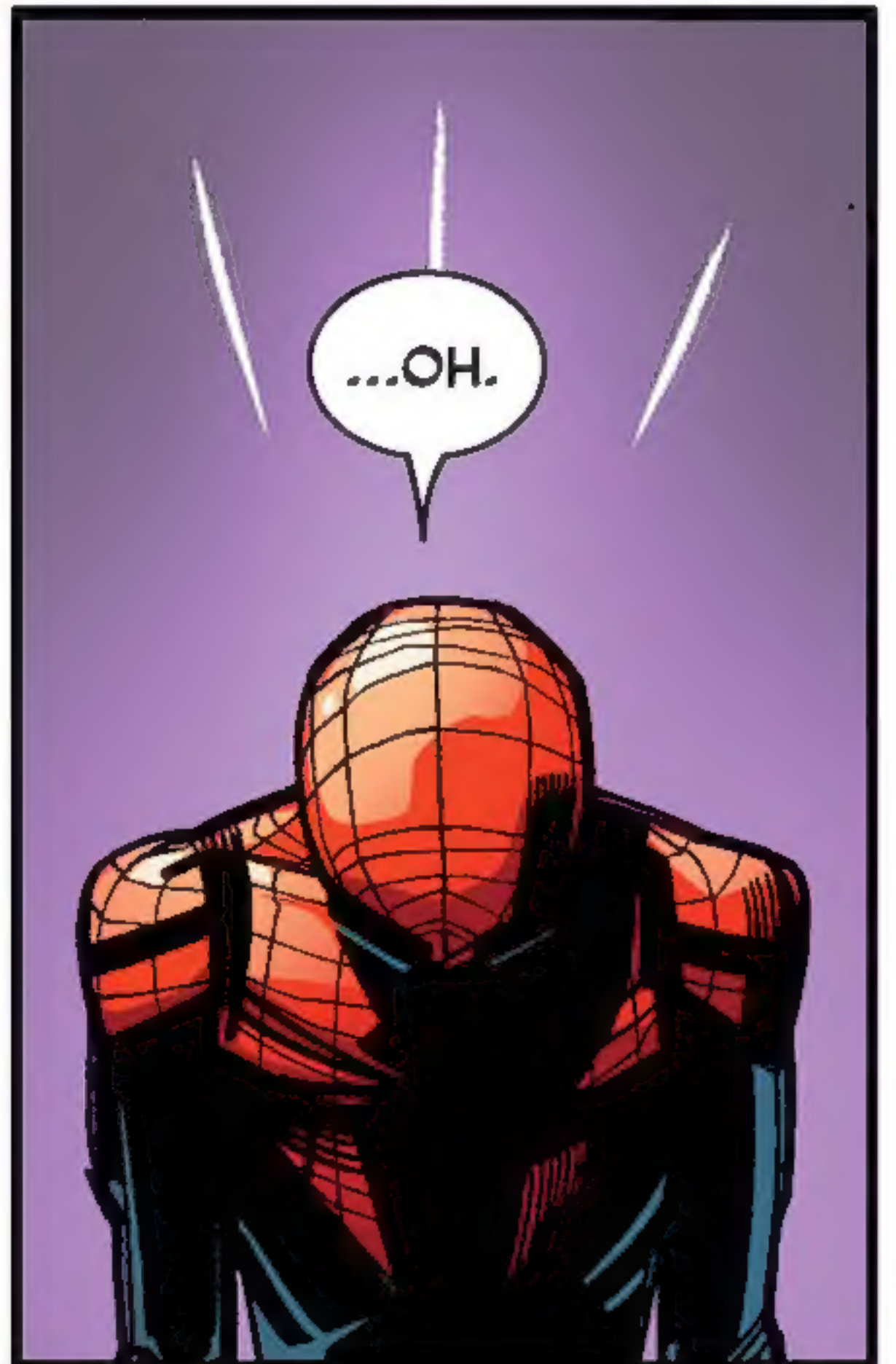
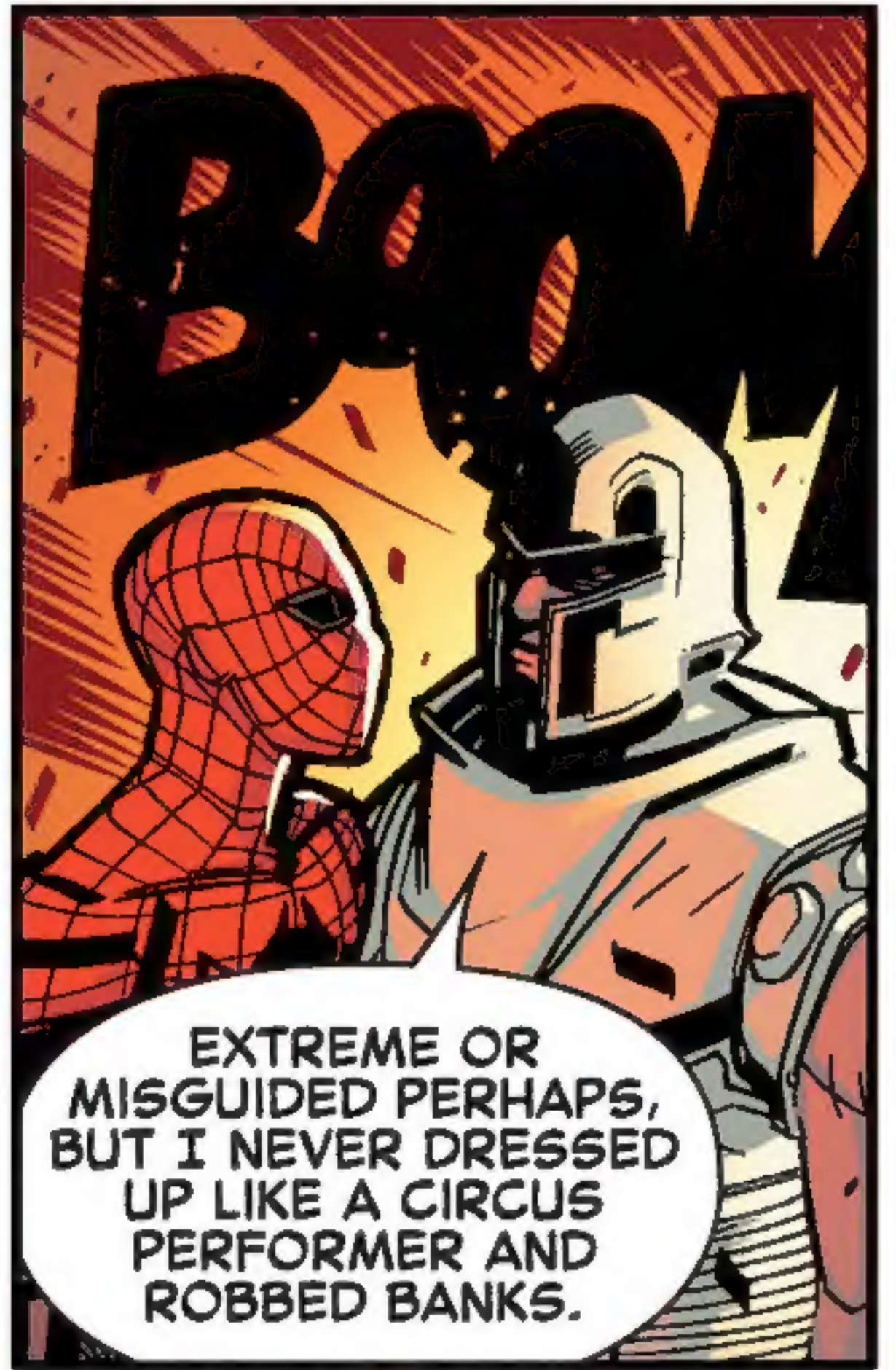
M.O.D.O.K. (BOSS).



"YOU'D DO WELL TO SIMPLY FOLLOW MY LEAD.
I'VE ALREADY MEMORIZED A DETAILED OVERVIEW
OF THIS A.I.M. INSTALLATION AND KNOW EXACTLY
WHAT WE'LL BE UP AGAINST."







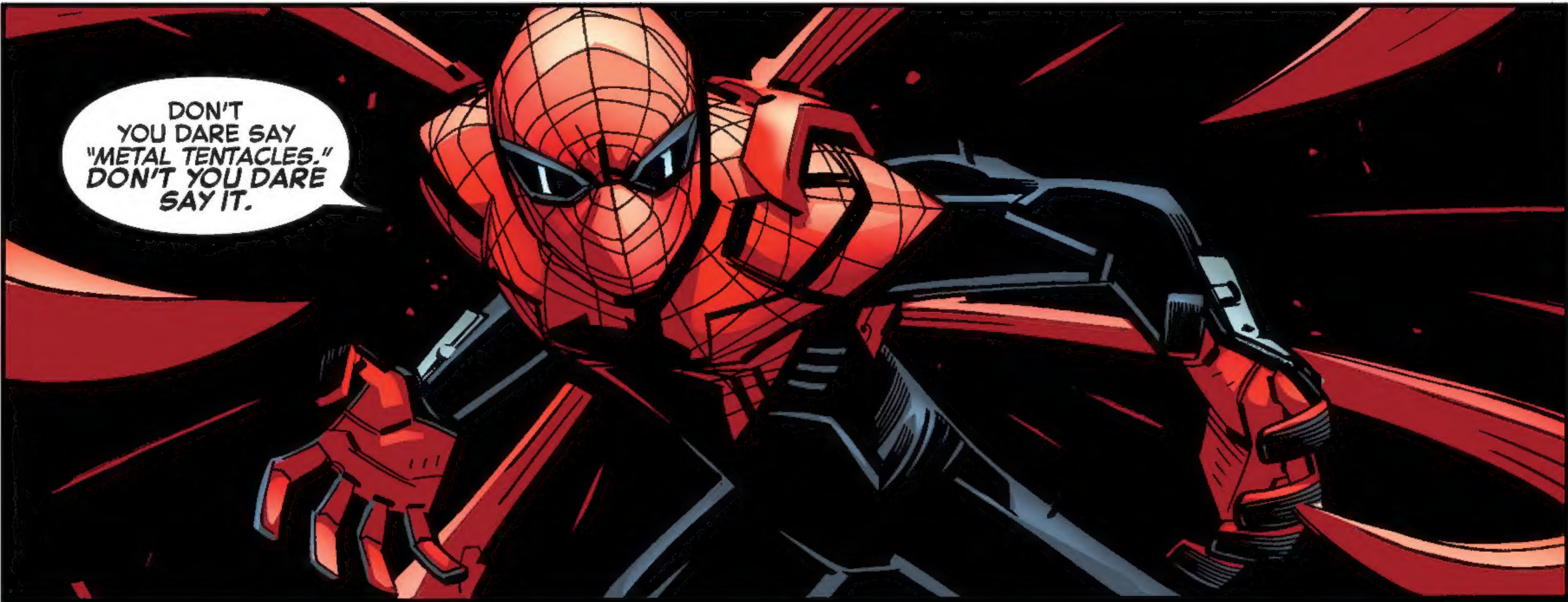


LEVEL FOUR.

LOOK AT THIS.
ANOTHER COMMON
TROPE--TECHNOLOGY
AS A PHALIC EXTENSION
OF THE SUPER
VILLAIN'S HOPELESS
IMPOTENCE.

HALF OF
THESE MEN
ARE NOTHING
WITHOUT THEIR
SAD GIMMICK.

A PAIR OF
SHODDILY BUILT
WINGS...AN ENCHANTED
GAUNTLET...CLONES
OF ONE'S SELF...



DON'T
YOU DARE SAY
"METAL TENTACLES."
DON'T YOU DARE
SAY IT.



METAL
TENTACLES?

WHAT
KIND OF FOOL
WOULD COME
UP WITH METAL
TENTACLES?

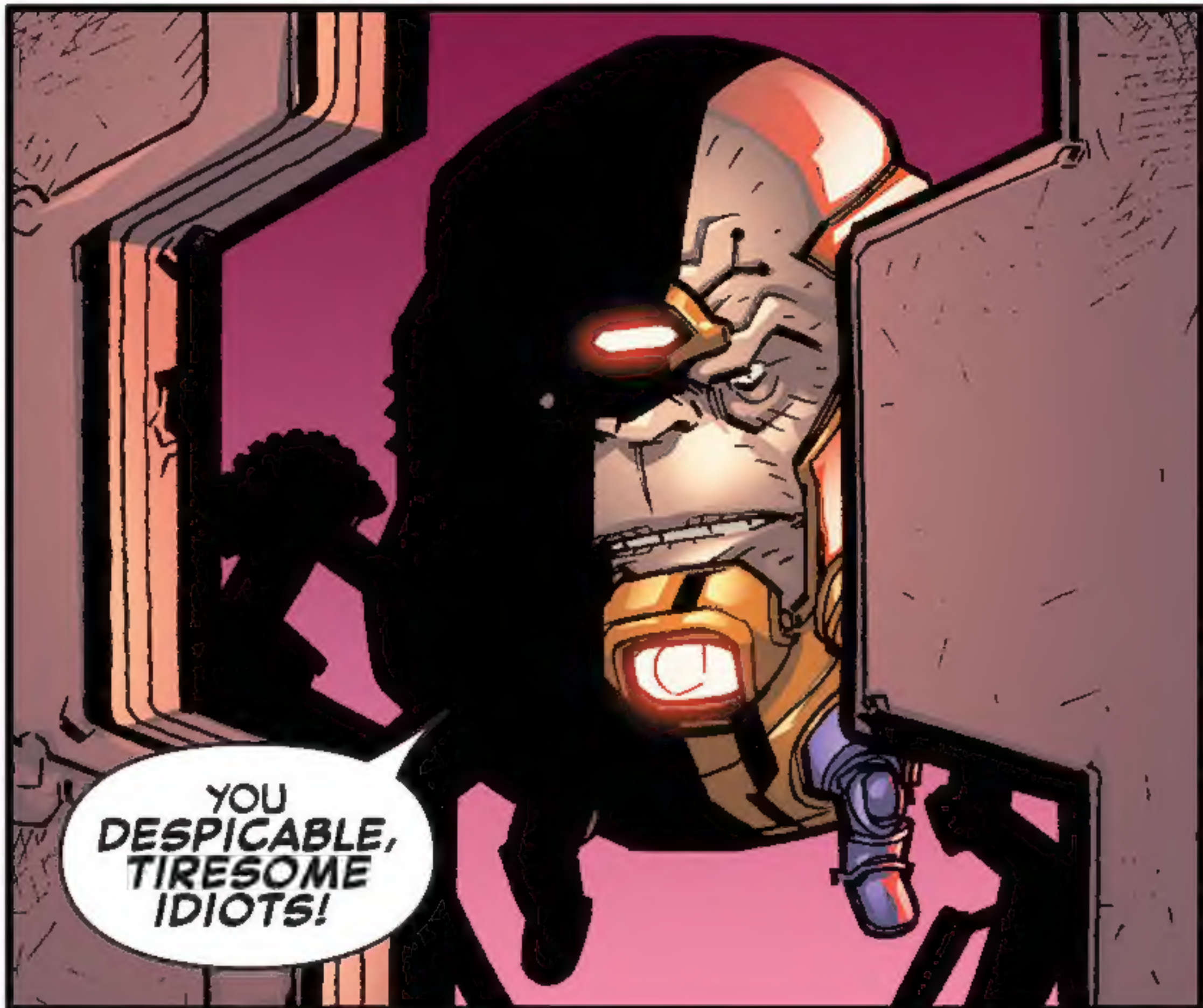
GRAHHHHHHHHHHHHH...



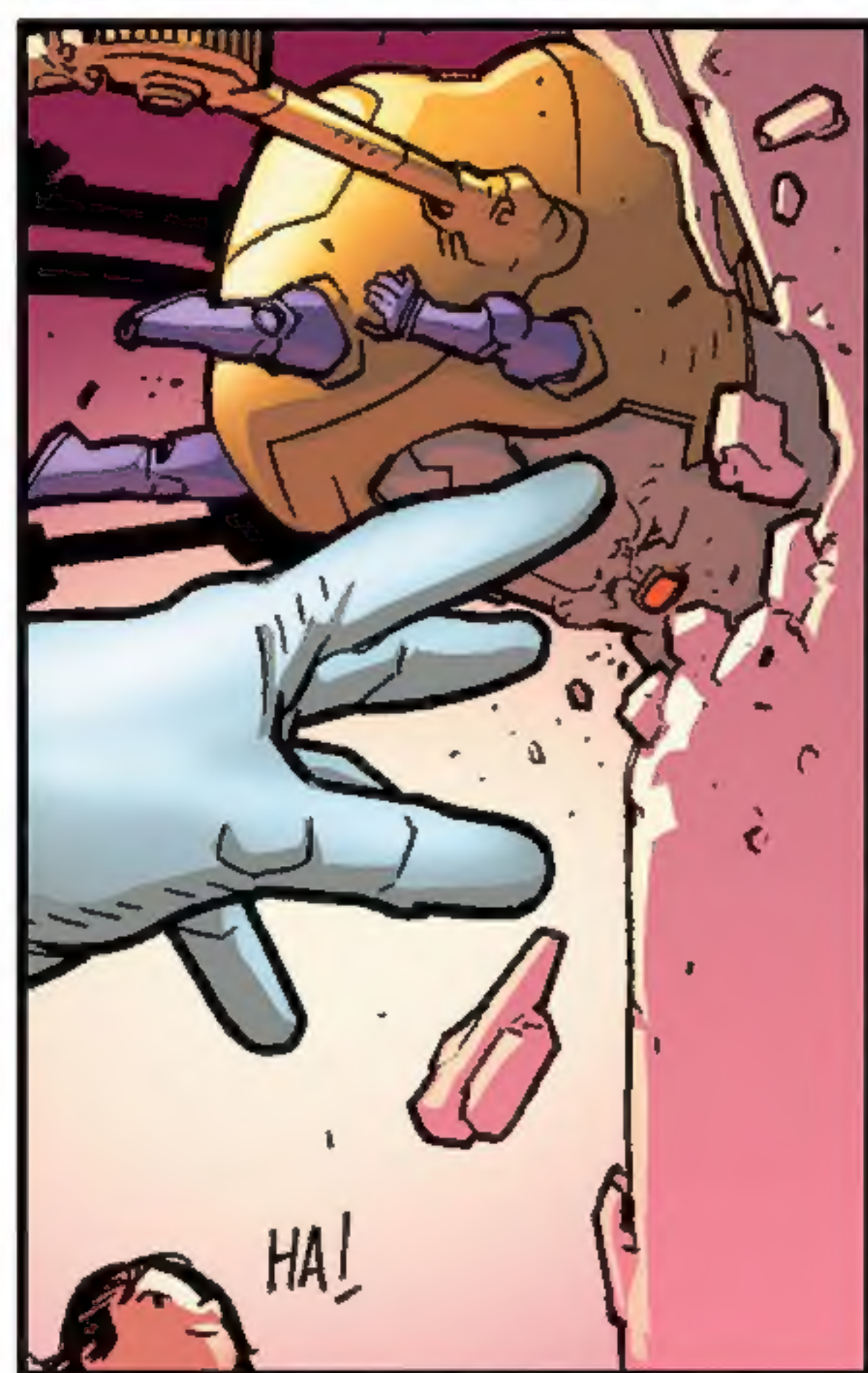
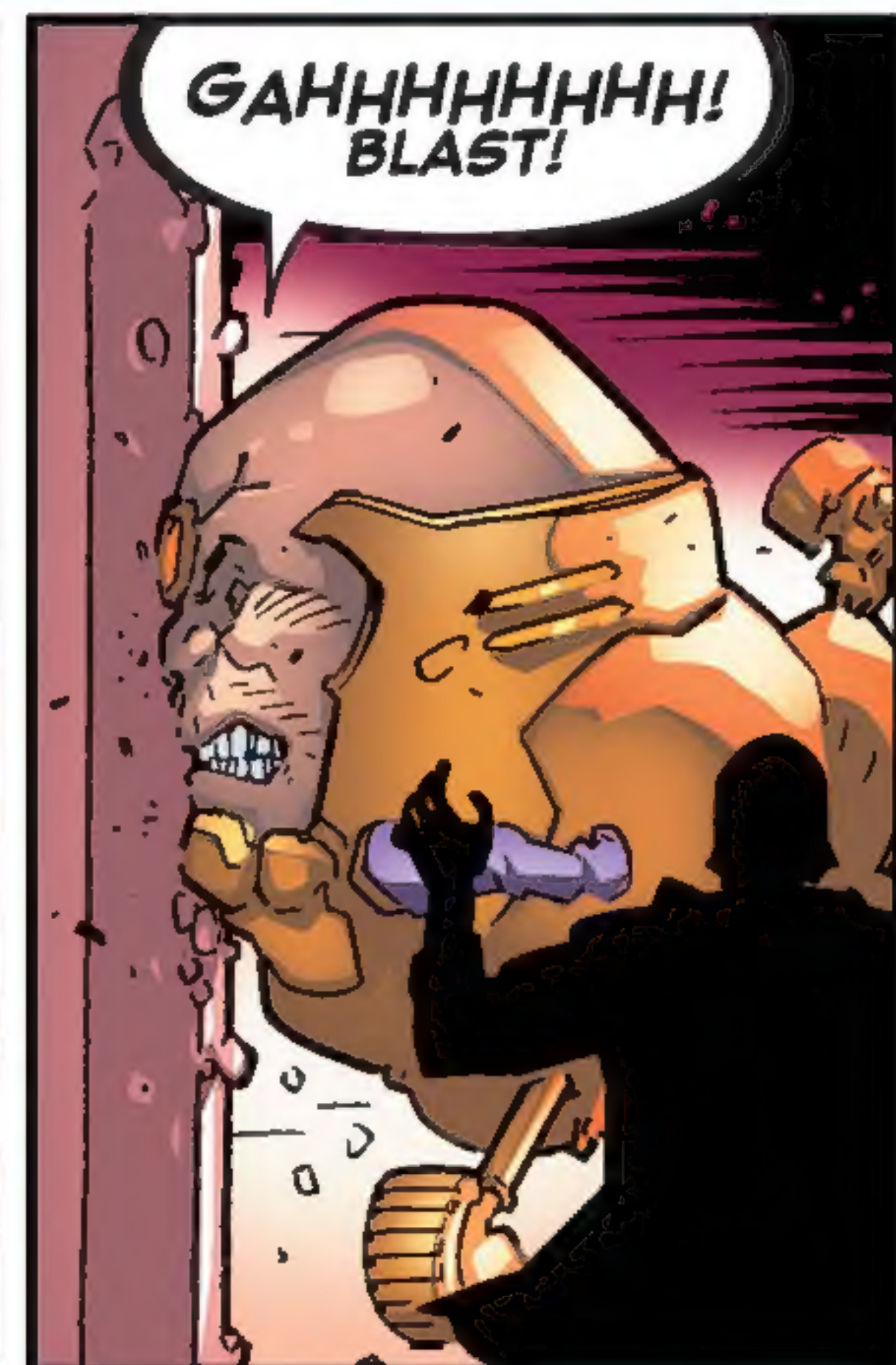
AHHHH.
HERE HE COMES.
PREPARE FOR THE
DIATRIBE.

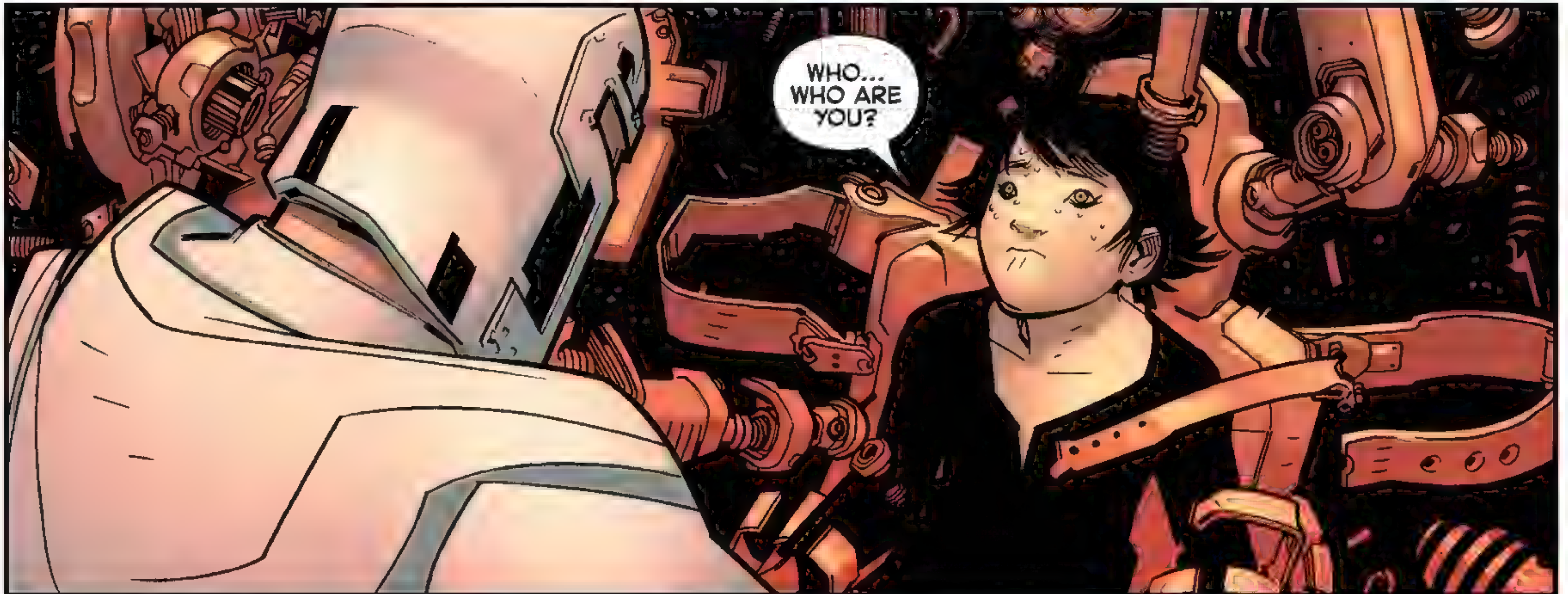
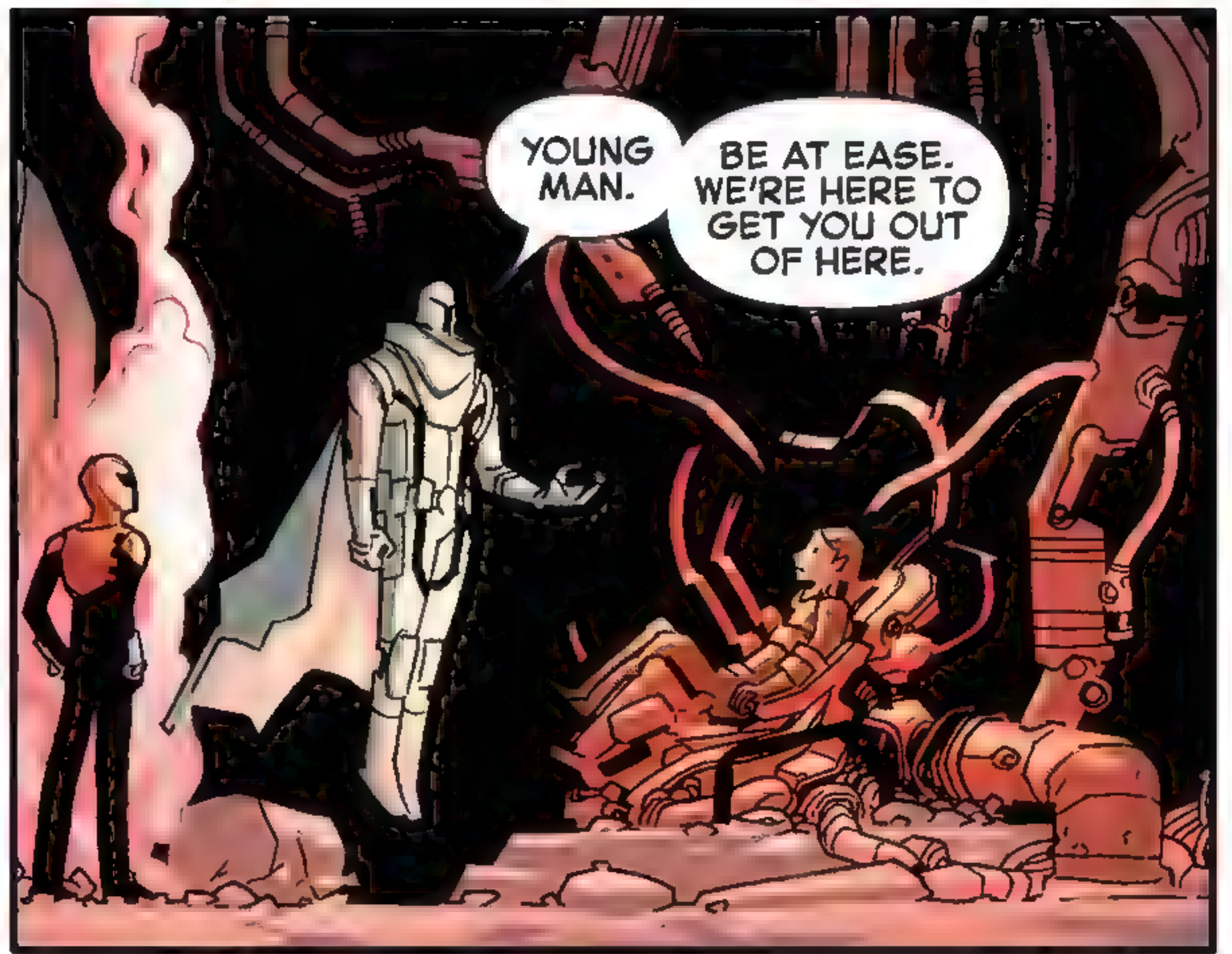
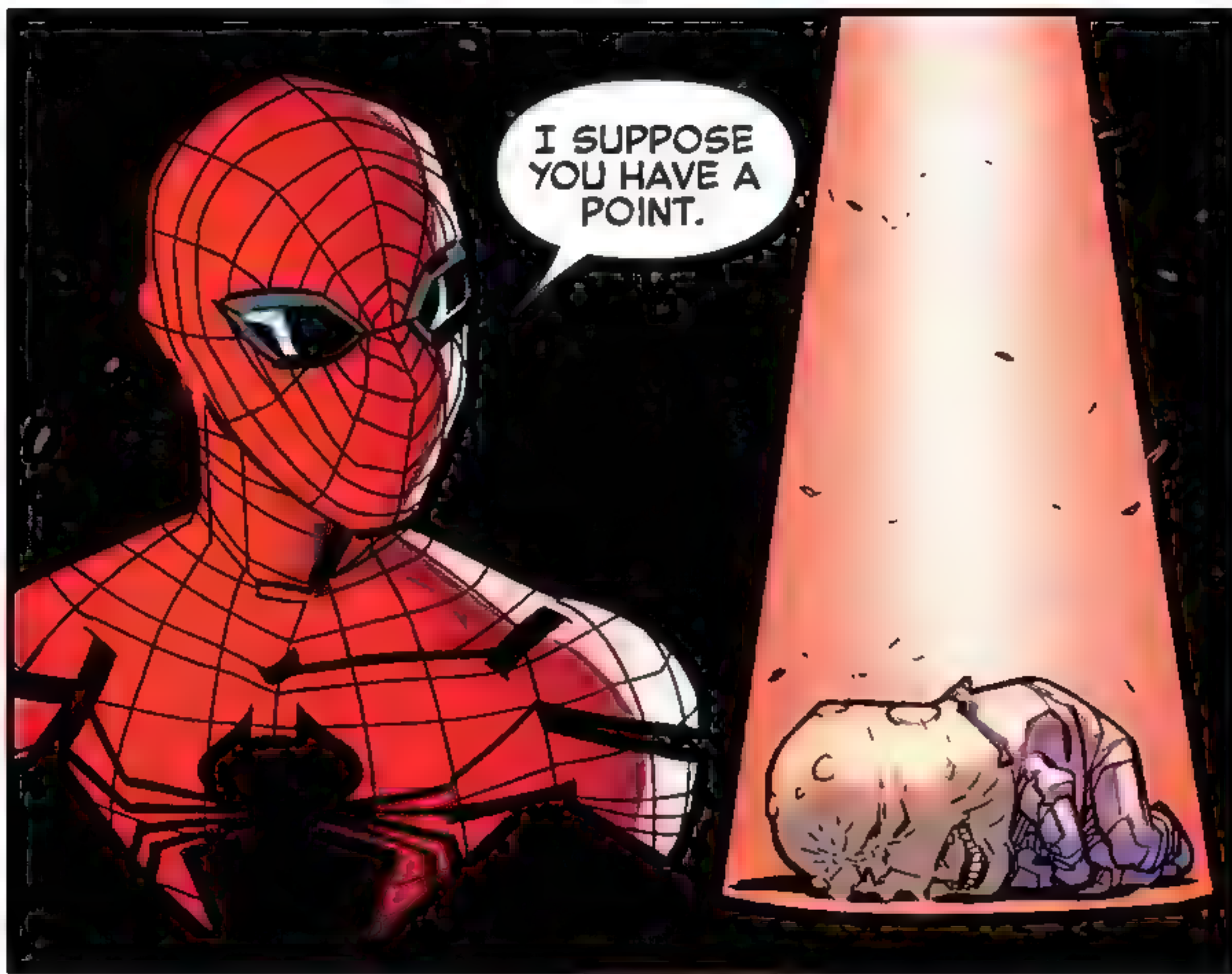
THE
DIATRIBE?

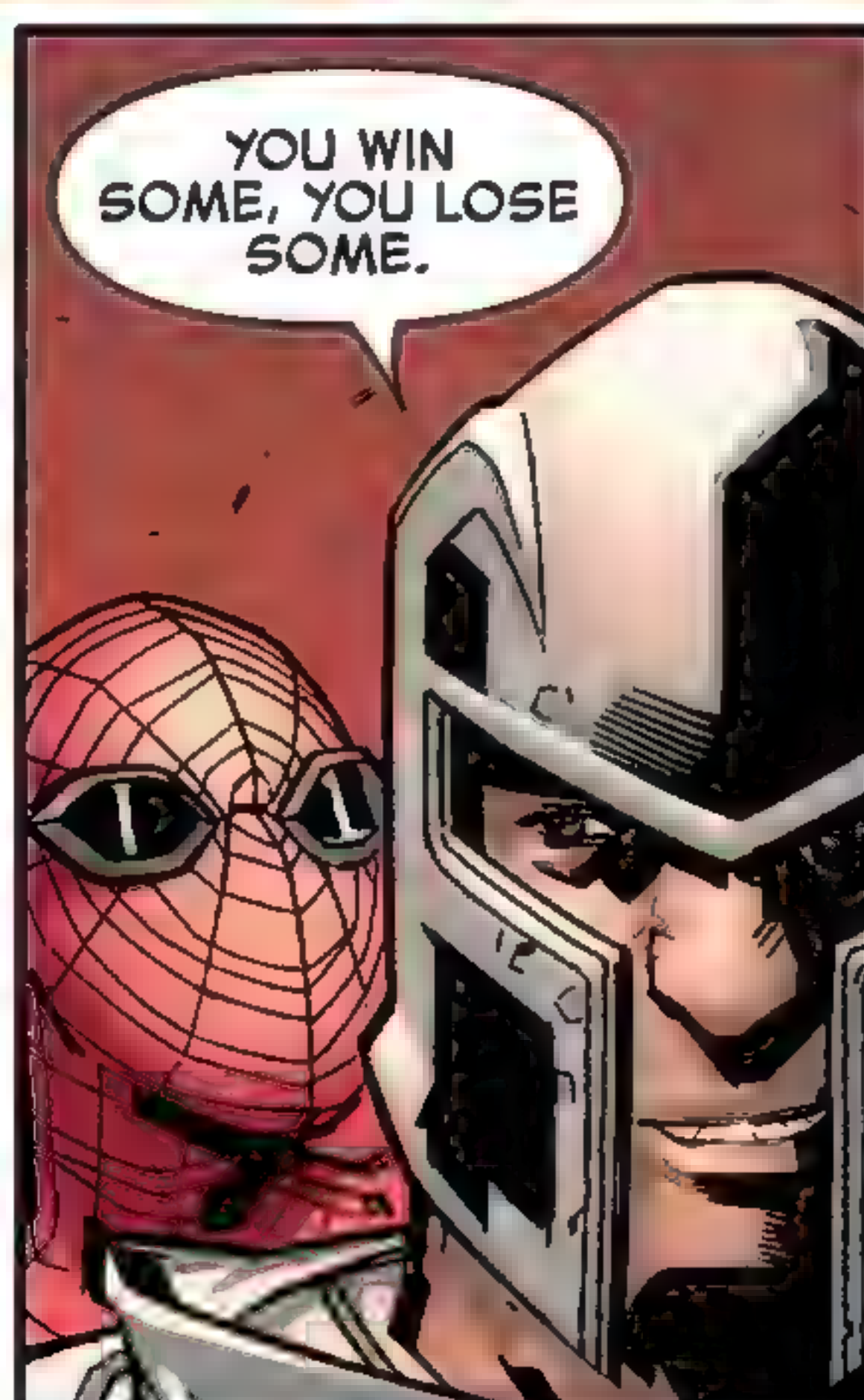
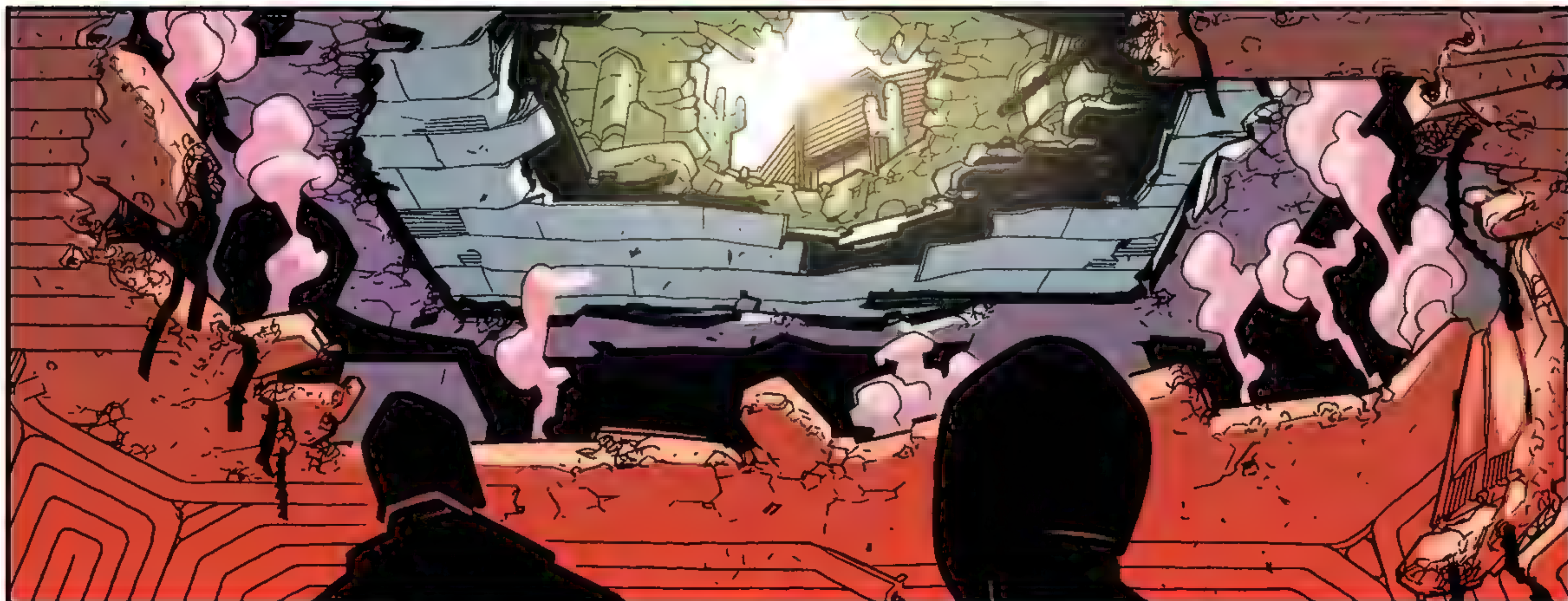
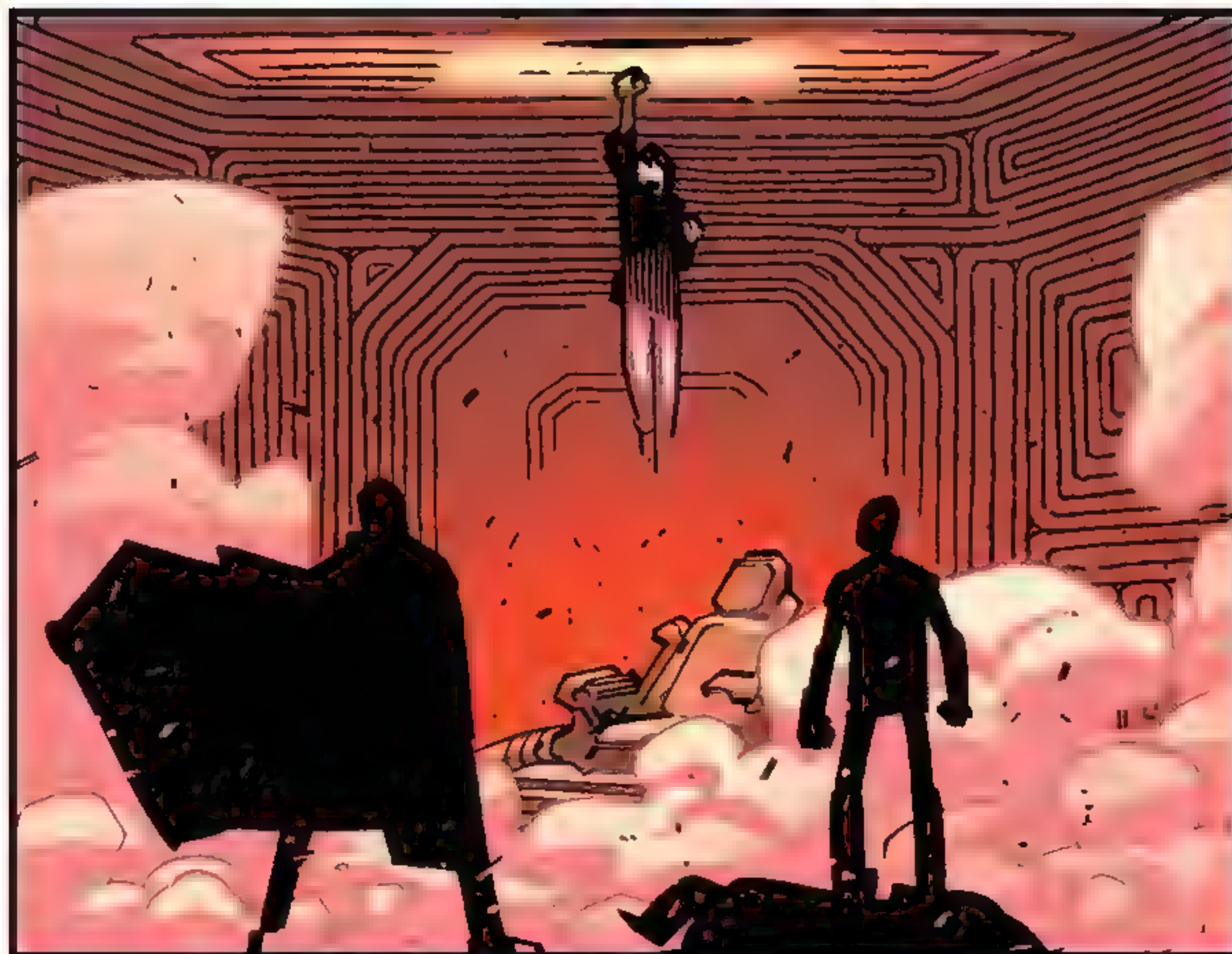
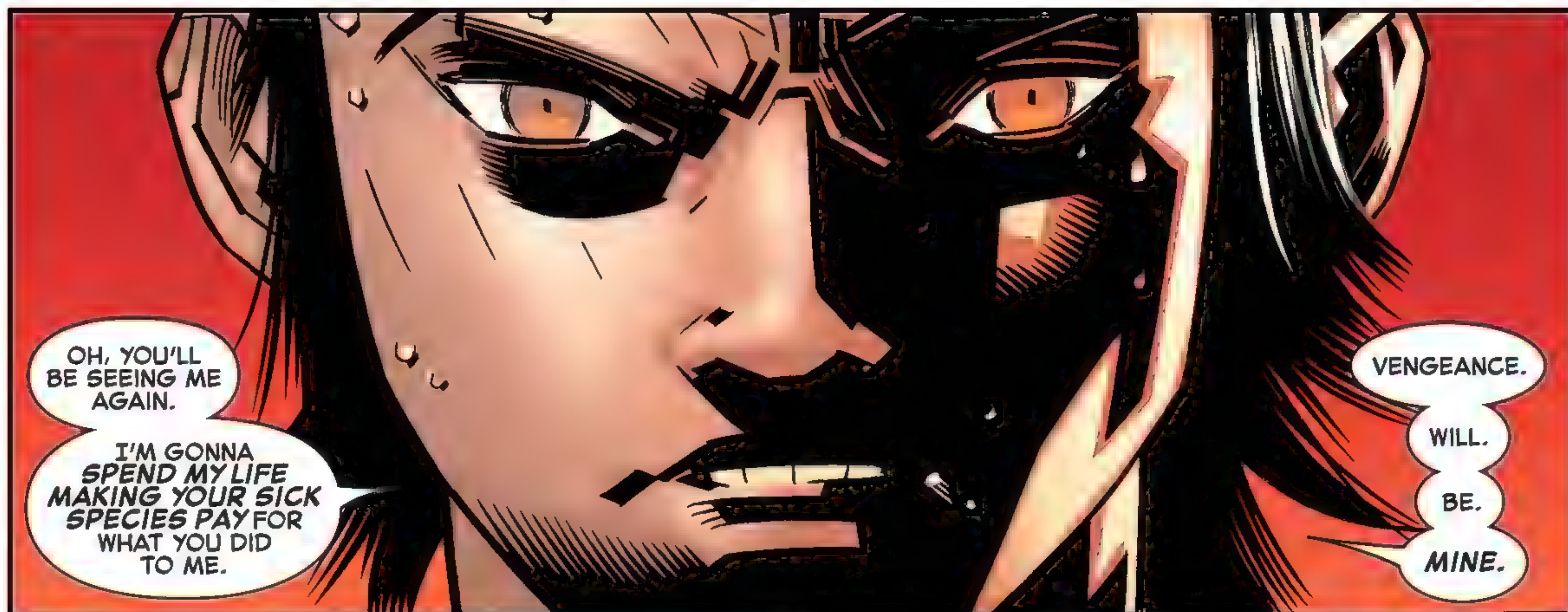
JUST
WAIT.



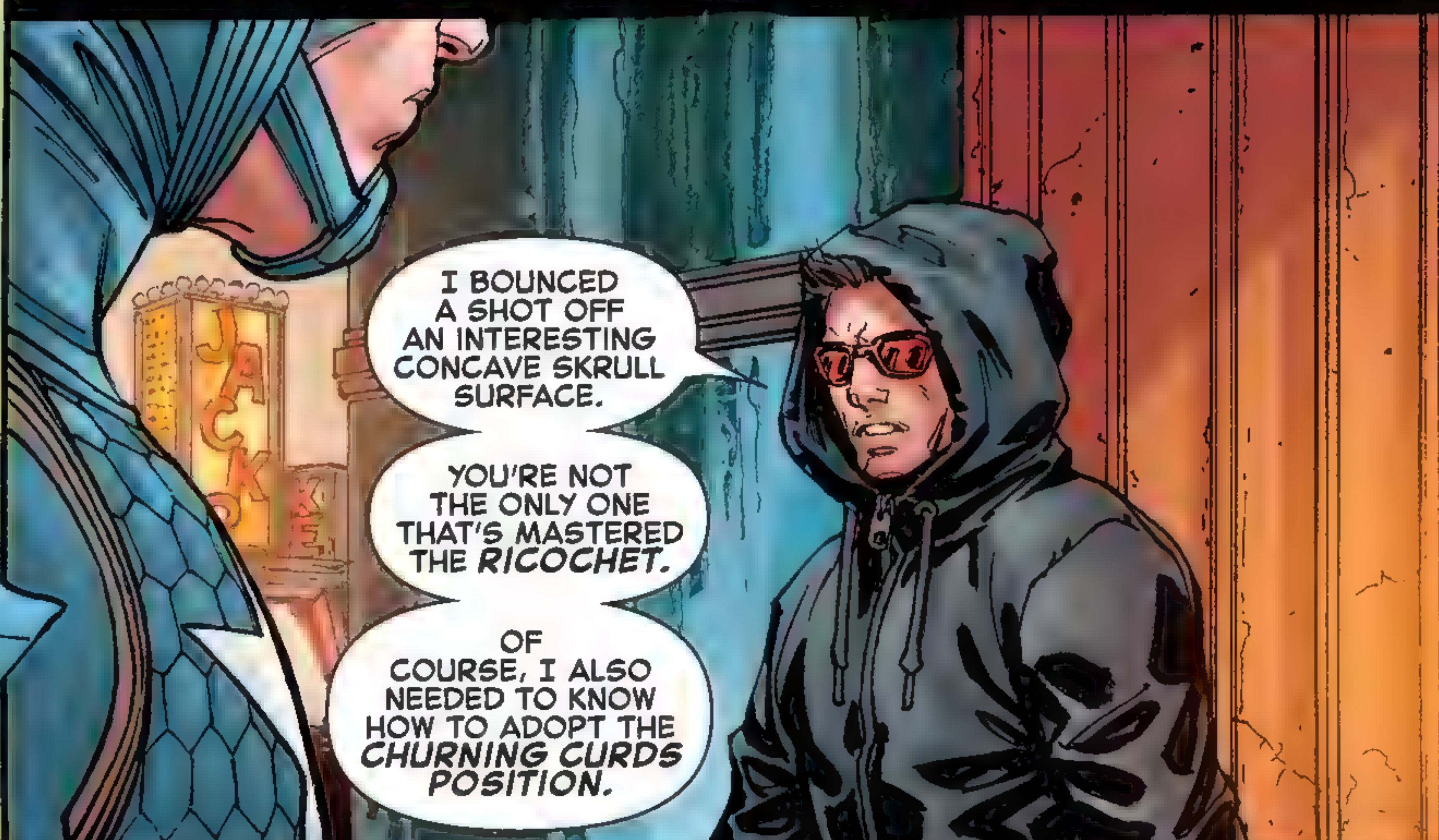
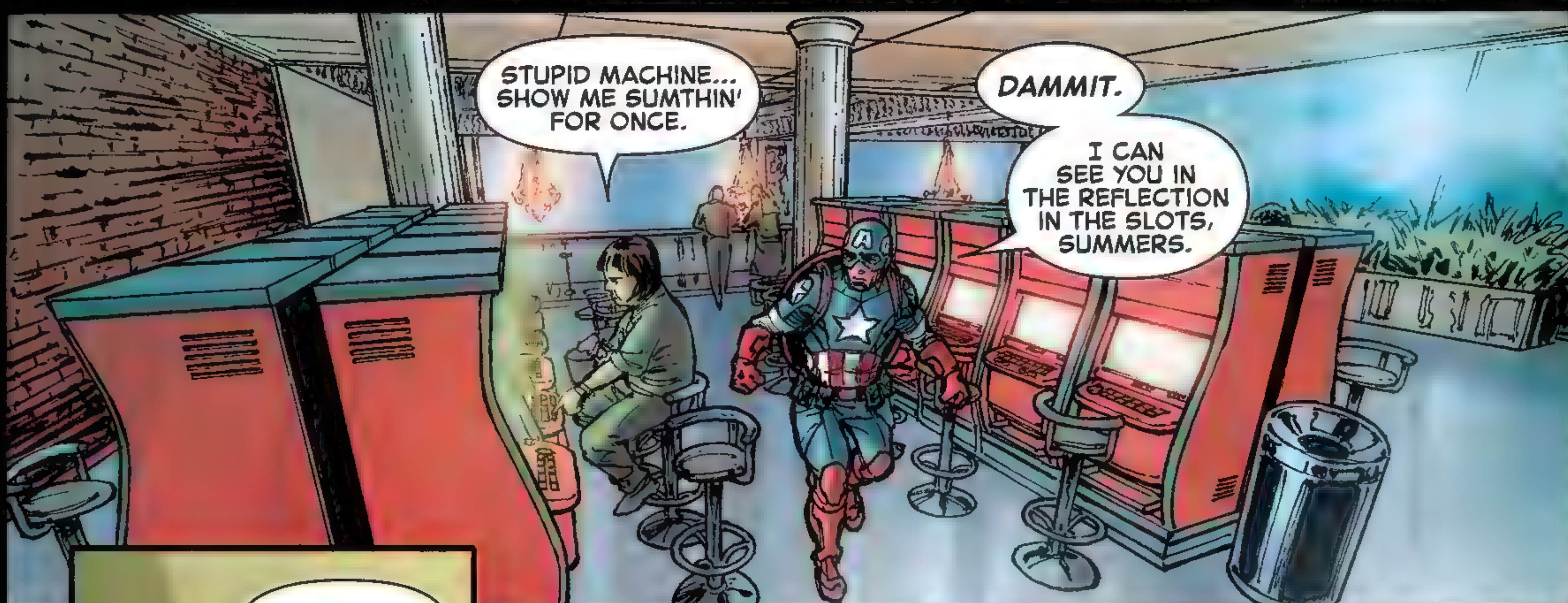
YOU
DESPICABLE,
TIRE SOME
IDIOTS!







CASINO 94,
JUST OFF THE MAIN STRIP
IN LAS VEGAS...





THIS PARTICULAR SAFE HOUSE HAS LASTED AS LONG AS IT HAS BECAUSE NOBODY QUESTIONS STRANGERS COMING AND GOING AT ALL HOURS AT A CASINO.

GOOD EVENING, CAPTAIN AMERICA.

YOU'RE ACCOMPANYING A KNOWN FUGITIVE, I WILL REQUIRE YOUR CHALLENGE CODES.

FLASH.



THUNDER.

CLIPPER.

YANKEE.

HOW MAY I ASSIST YOU?



IS IT A PROBLEM I'M HERE WITH **SUMMERS**?

NOT FOR ME. FORMER DIRECTOR FURY WAS HIMSELF A FUGITIVE AT ONE TIME.

I NEED ACCESS TO ALL OUR FILES ON THE **SKRULLS**.



I'M ROUTING THAT INFORMATION TO THE TERMINAL.

WHY DO YOU KEEP CALLING ME "**SUMMERS**"?

BECAUSE YOU BOTH CAN'T BE CYCLOPS, AND THE KID IS CYCLOPS-- NOT YOU.



LISTEN, I **ESCAPED** AND COULD HAVE KEPT RIGHT ON GOING, BUT I WANT TO HELP YOU DO THE RIGHT THING, SO CUT ME SOME DAMN SLACK.

WE'RE WASTING OUR BREATH JAWING AT EACH OTHER, AND WE'RE WASTING OUR TIME HERE.

IF S.H.I.E.L.D. KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT THESE SKRULLS THAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, THEY WOULD HAVE DEPORTED THEM ALREADY.

I'M NOT LOOKING FOR WHERE THE SKRULLS ARE NOW, I'M LOOKING FOR WHERE THEY'VE BEEN.

THERE'S A MEMO THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU: IN THE AFTERMATH OF THEIR FAILED INVASION, S.H.I.E.L.D. BECAME AWARE OF AN ILLEGAL SKRULL CORPSE TRADE.

THAT CLUSTER IS INTERESTING, BUT THOSE CONFIRMED SIGHTINGS WERE YEARS AGO.

WE CAN CONFIRM THE INVOLVEMENT OF A.I.M. FROM A RAID ON ONE OF THEIR BLACK SITES. THE SCIENTISTS WERE TRYING TO UNRAVEL THE SECRETS OF THE SKRULL'S SHAPESHIFTING PHYSIOLOGY.

RECOVERED A.I.M. DATA SEEMED TO INDICATE THAT LATVERIAN SCIENTISTS POSSESS A LIVING SKRULL PRISONER OF WAR.

DO YOU HAVE A LIST OF LATVERIAN BLACK OPS SITES?

THAT INFORMATION IS DOWNLOADING NOW TO YOUR P.D.A. THIS IS A SKRULL DETECTOR. I'VE ALSO TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF PLACING A JUMP-JET AT MCCARRON ON STANDBY FOR YOU.

I THOUGHT L.M.D.S WERE SUPPOSED TO MIMIC HUMANS, NOT ANNOUNCE THEMSELVES AS ROBOTS.

IF YOU'RE REFERRING TO MY CLOTHING WHICH IDENTIFIES ME AS AN ARTIFICIAL LIFEFORM, IT'S SIMPLE:

MOST VISITS TO THIS SAFE HOUSE ARE MADE BY SPIES SEEKING IMMEDIATE AND DISCREET MEDICAL ATTENTION. GUNSHOTS, STABBINGS, BURNS, BROKEN BONES. I'VE TREATED THEM ALL.

PATIENTS REPORTED IT WAS DISTURBING TO WONDER IF I WAS EVER A "ROBOT." ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT WERE HALLUCINATING FROM BEING POISONED.

DOES THAT HAPPEN A LOT?

IF YOUR NAME IS CLINT BARTON, YES.

I'M BORROWING YOUR SKRULL DETECTOR. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

C'MON, SUMMERS. WE HAVE A PLANE TO CATCH.

LATER THAT EVENING
IN LATVERIA...

THIS IS THE
LAST OF THE THREE
SITES THAT S.H.I.E.L.D.
INTEL THOUGHT COULD
HOUSE A **SKRULL**
PRISONER.

JET, LEAVE LATVERIAN
AIRSPACE, BUT **STAY**
CLOSE.

WELL, IF
NOTHING ELSE I
LEARNED MORE ABOUT
SKRULLS THAN I EVER
HOPED TO.

THOSE AUTOPSY
REPORTS WERE NOTHING BUT
WEIRD. A COUPLE OF THEM WERE
DIGESTING **BISON** WHEN THEY DIED.

THAT IS ODD.
THOUGH, IT *IS* A
HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE
TO TRADITIONAL
BEEF.

SPEAKING
OF **BEEF**, AREN'T
WE COMMITTING AN
ACT OF WAR HERE?

ONLY
IF WE GET
CAUGHT.

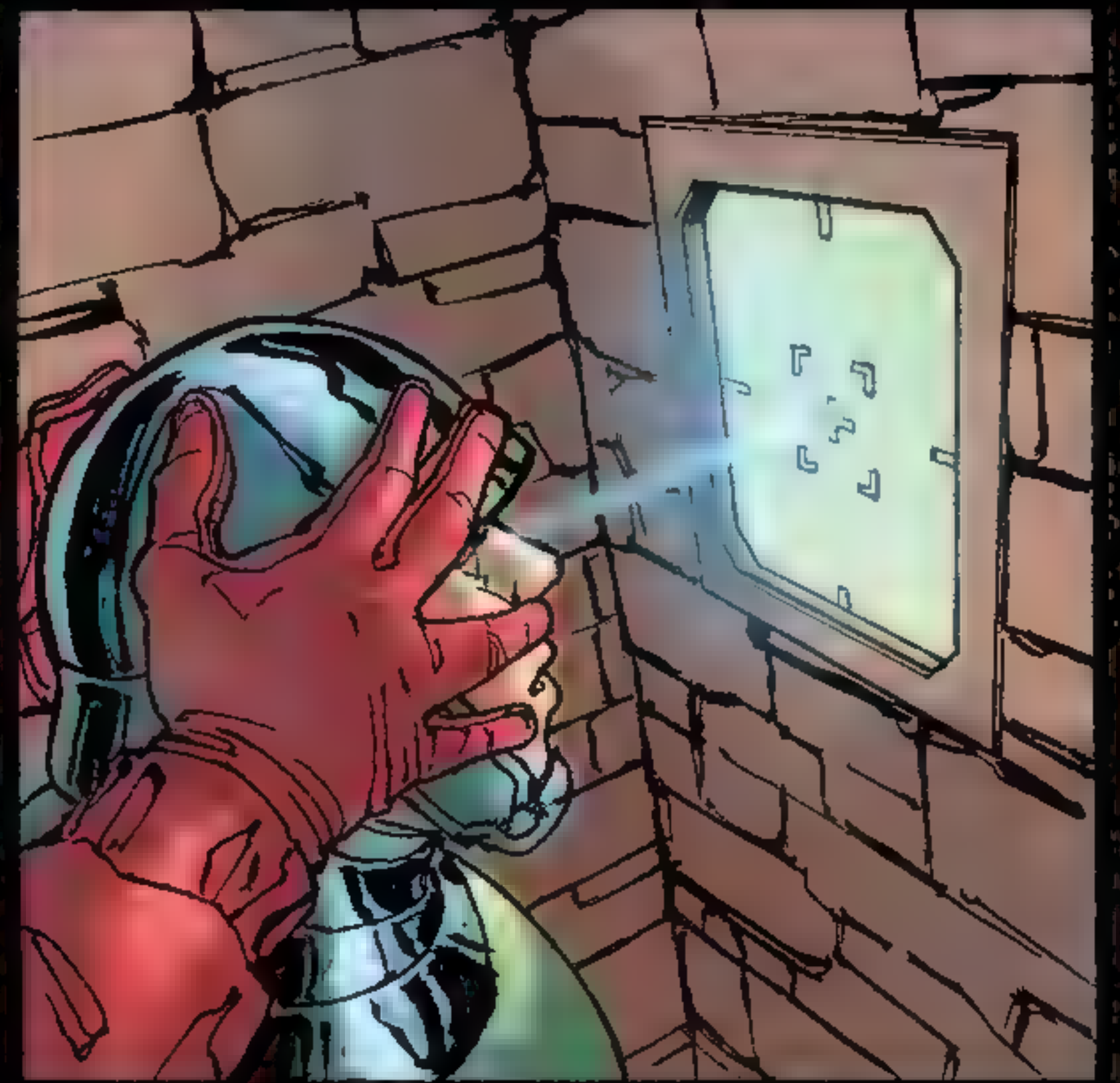
WHAT'S
THE RANGE ON
YOUR **SKRULL**
DETECTOR?

MAYBE A
COUPLE OF
HUNDRED
YARDS.

BECAUSE
IT'S LIT UP LIKE
CHRISTMAS.

WHAT IF
DOOM *IS* THE
SKRULL?

IT WOULD BE
EASIER TO ACCEPT
HIS CRIMES IF HE WEREN'T
HUMAN. THE SAD TRUTH IS,
DOOM IS ONE OF US. A PAINED,
TWISTED HUMAN **SOUL** THAT
CAN ONLY FIND A MOMENT'S
PEACE IN SOMEONE
ELSE'S PAIN.





WHAT IS THE
TERRORIST
MURDERER OF
XAVIER DOING
IN LATVER
10101010

HUH.
YOU'RE ON
LATVERIA'S
NO-FLY LIST,
TOO?

PUSH
THE DAMAGED
MACHINES INTO
EACH OTHER
NOW.

I DIDN'T
DELIBERATELY KILL
CHARLES!

DAMAGE
CRITICAL

WE'RE DOOMED
101LOLO101010110

THANKS

DON'T
THANK ME YET,
AND DON'T SHIFT
YOUR SHAPE.
WE'RE NOT IN
THE MOOD.

I'VE BEEN
IN THIS CAGE
FOR MONTHS, AND
BESIDES I HAVEN'T
EATEN ENOUGH
CALORIES TO
SHIFT ANYWAY.

DID YOU REALLY
THINK YOU COULD
ENTER LATVERIA
UNNOTICED...

OH--

--CRAP.



...BY DOOM?



DOOM SEES ALL!

I'M GUESSING THAT'S NOT A DOOMBOT?

NO SUCH LUCK.



GET THAT PLANE BACK HERE.

BEING HONEST, DOOM, I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD NOTICE. I'VE BEEN IN AND OUT OF THIS OCCUPIED COUNTRY MANY TIMES WITHOUT YOU KNOWING.



YOU'RE NOT HELPING.

OH, YOU'D LIKE TO HELP? WHY DON'T YOU TURN ON YOUR DISCO LIGHTS AGAIN?



SILENCE!

YOU HAVE BEEN FOUND TRESPASSING AGAINST DOOM... AND THE PENALTY...





--DEAD!

DON'T!

AAARGHH!

NO!

PZZZT



MURDERER!

TAKE YOUR
PRIZE AND GO,
UNLESS YOU INTEND
TO PUSH YOUR
ALREADY THIN
LUCK.

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:



ZONE

